

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for representing a distributed software application comprising:

determining at least one distributed application in a network, the application including the collective behavior of at least one computing device entity, wherein each computing device entity is associated with at least one resource;

storing at least one application descriptor, wherein the application descriptor describes the association between each of the at least one computing device entity participating in the application and each of the respective resources, and the application descriptor maintains a complete representation of all distributed applications in the network; and

providing access to the application descriptor in order to facilitate administration of the distributed software application and to automatically configure the at least one computing device.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the distributed application.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the distributed application.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the distributed application is installed on a network including an application server, a middleware server and a mobile device.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for representing a software application operating within a mobile environment, the mobile application including the collective behavior of a mobile device, a middleware server and a backend server comprising:

specifying a behavior for the mobile device;

determining at least one first resource to be associated with mobile device, at least one second resource to be associated with the middleware server and at least one third resource to be associated with the backend server as a function of the specified behavior for the mobile device;

storing an application descriptor, the application descriptor describing the association between the first resource, the second resource, the third resource and, respectively, the mobile device, the middleware server and the backend server, and the application descriptor maintaining a complete representation of all software applications in the mobile environment.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the distributed application.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the distributed application.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the at least one first resource, the at least one second resource and the at least one third resource are deployed to at least one of the mobile device, the middleware server and the backend server as a function of the application descriptor.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing thereon program instructions that, when executed, cause an executing device to form a data structure for representing a distributed software-an application descriptor, the application descriptor storing a complete representation of all distributed applications existing in a network, the data structure including:

a first unique identifier for representing a ~~distributed~~ software application distributed in the network;

at least one second unique identifier specifying at least one computing device entity to participate in the ~~distributed~~ software application, wherein the second identifier is associated with the first unique identifier;

at least one third unique identifier specifying at least one resource;

an association between each of the at least one computing device entity and the at least one resource, wherein the association is formed by associating the third unique identifier with the second unique identifier.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for administering a distributed software application including the collective behavior of a plurality of computing devices entities within a network comprising:

a server including a processor, ~~said processor performing at least one of deploying, configuring and updating the distributed application with respect to the computing entities within the network;~~

a database for storing at least one application descriptor, the at least one application descriptor representing an association between ~~at least one~~ the distributed software application, computing devices entities participating in the distributed software application and resources to be associated with the computing devices entities, and the at least one application descriptor maintains a complete representation of all distributed applications in the network; and

at least one administrative module on the server, wherein the processor, utilizing the at least one administrative module and the at least one application descriptor, the administrative module performing administration performs administrative tasks for the distributed software application with respect to the computing devices entities participating in the distributed software application.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 10, wherein the administrative tasks include at least one of configuration, deployment, and updating of the distributed software application.

12. (Currently Amended) A program storage device, said program storage device including instructions for representing a distributed software application in a network comprising:

determining at least one distributed application, the application including the collective behavior of at least one computing device entity, wherein each computing device entity is associated with at least one resource;

storing at least one application descriptor, wherein the application descriptor describes the association between each of the at least one computing device entity participating in the application and each of the respective resources, and the application descriptor maintains a complete representation of all distributed applications in the network;

providing access to the application descriptor in order to facilitate administration of the distributed software application and automatically configure the at least one computing device.

13. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 12, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the distributed application.

14. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 12, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the distributed application.

15. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 12, wherein the distributed application is installed on a network including an application server, a middleware server and a mobile device.

16. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the complete representation comprises respective resources required for all of the distributed applications with respect to all participating computing devices.

17. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein the complete representation comprises respective resources required for the distributed applications with respect to all participating computing devices.